



Fig. 1. — *Canavalia favieri* Nielsen : 1, distal part of stem with leaf; 2, leaflet seen from beneath; 3, detail of stem with basal pulvinous and stipule; 4, flower; 5, calyx opened; 6, standard; 7, wing; 8, keel; 9, filament tube with style; 10, gynoeceium; 11, pod; 12, seed, hilar view (above), lateral view (below). — Veillon 7387 (P).

Large liane. Leaflets chartaceous, (ovate-)elliptic, 6-8 × 3.2-3.8 cm; terminal leaflet symmetric, the two lateral slightly unequal-sided, base rounded, apex obtusely acuminate, recurved and canaliculate; both surfaces glabrous; petiole 3-8 cm long. Inflorescences ca. 12-20 cm long; pedicels 0.5 cm, sparsely appressed puberulous. Calyx green, 2.3 cm long, glabrous except for a few scattered microscopic hairs and the ciliate margins of the lower teeth; tube ca. 1 cm long, lower tooth 3 mm long equalling the lateral ones. Petals deep purple, clawed, standard reflexed, 6-6.5 cm long, wings 4.5-5 cm, keel 5-5.5 cm; ovary and stipe puberulous. Pod brown, glabrous, with a fragile, papery and somewhat wrinkled epicarp and a pale, parchment-like endocarp, indehiscent, ± oblong, straight to slightly curved, 10-13.5 × 3.3-3.8 cm, sutural rib 1-2 mm high, marginal ribs 2-3 mm wide along both the dorsal and the ventral suture. Seeds not buoyant, olive green tinged with brown, ellipsoid, 18 × 14 × 11 mm, biconvex, hilum ca. 18 mm long or about half the circumference of the seed. — Fig. 1.

DISTRIBUTION : endemic for New Caledonia.

HABITAT : Sclerophyll forest on a substrate of phtanites, soil dark brown.

MATERIAL STUDIED OTHER THAN TYPE : *Veillon 7465*, New Caledonia, Dumbéa, Nakutakoin, western slope of Pic Jacob, sclerophyll forest on slope, substrate of phtanites, dark brown soil, alt. ca. 100 m, 15. Jan. 1992, fl., fr. (AAU, P).

NOTES : *Canavalia favieri* is intermediate between subgen. *Canavalia* and subgen. *Maunaloa* Sauer as defined by SAUER (1964) and somewhat breaks down the distinction between the two subgenera as the upper edge of the calyx is slightly constricted as in subgen. *Canavalia* but the upper lip of the calyx is slightly exceeding the calyx-tube, the lowest calyx-tooth is 3 mm long and the keel is longer than the wings as is the case in subgen. *Maunaloa*.

C. favieri is by the size of the flowers and the shape of the leaflets related to *C. vitiensis* Sauer an endemic of Fiji (Viti Levu and Vanua Levu). *C. favieri* is, however, easily distinguished by the nearly glabrous calyx, the calyx-tube that is shorter than the upper lip, the deep purple petals, the marginal ribs of the pod at the margins and the ellipsoid seeds that are olive green, tinged with brown. *C. vitiensis* has a calyx with a white short pubescence, the calyx-tube equalling the upper lip, rich to deep pink petals, the marginal rib ca. 7 mm from the ventral rib and oblong seeds that are reddish brown.

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Novitates gabonenses 16.

Dichapetalum rabiense (*Dichapetalaceae*) a new species from Gabon

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Summary : *Dichapetalum rabiense* Breteler, a new species from Gabon, is described and illustrated. It is the first species of the genus with a 4-5-locular ovary.

Résumé : *Dichapetalum rabiense* Breteler, une espèce nouvelle du Gabon, est décrit et illustré. C'est la seule espèce du genre à ovaire 4-5-loculé.

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The Rabi-Kounga region in West Gabon had already yielded several new species (JONGKIND, 1991, 1993 and in press). This time a new *Dichapetalum* is described.

***Dichapetalum rabiense* Breteler, sp. nov.** — Fig. 1, Map 1.

Dichapetali glomerati Engl. affine, a quo imprimis differt glandulis foliorum conspicuis, floribus distincte minoribus et pistillo 4-5 mero.

TYPE : Breteler, Jongkind & Schoenmaker 10230, Gabon, Rabi-Kounga, 1°55' S, 9°55' E, 30.10.1991, fl. (holo-, WAG; iso-, LBV, MO).

Liana or lianescent shrub. Branches and branchlets villous-tomentose, glabrescent with age and becoming lenticellate. Stipules narrowly triangular to linear-triangular, 3-6(-12) mm long, villous-tomentose to strigose, the margin sometimes with glandular protuberances. Petiole subterete, 2-3(-4) mm long, hairy as branchlet; blade papery, obovate-oblong (narrowly so or not), (7-)10-15(-21) × (2-)3-4(-5) cm, 2-4(-7) times as long as wide, cordate at base (usually obliquely so), acute to acuminate and often mucronate at apex, the acumen 0.5-1 cm long; completely villous to tomentose when young, rather soon glabrescent, sometimes indumentum remaining longer on the midrib above and/or on the midrib and the 6-10(-13) pairs of main laterals beneath, midrib impressed, the main laterals indistinct above, midrib and main laterals prominent beneath; glands beneath only, at some distance along each side of the midrib, distinct, up to ca. 1 mm diam., larger near base and on the acumen.

Inflorescence a sessile, compact, whitish-hairy, up to ca. 10-flowered cyme; bracts and bracteoles narrowly triangular, up to ca. 1.5 mm long. Flowers sessile or nearly so; pedicel without a joint, hairy as calyx. Sepals spreading to reflexed, ± elliptic, 3 × 2 mm, apex acutish, tomentellous outside, appressed-puberulous inside. Petals slightly curved inwards, ± free,